THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EXCISE

F790006-1000

American Embassy,
Guatemala, October 14, 1952.

OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, A/CDC/MR
RELEASED BY [illegible] DATE 31 DEC 79
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

Dear Ed:

I enclose a copy of a memorandum of a conversation which I had on October 8 with [redacted] delegates to the Seventh General Assembly of the United Nations. B1, EB

It is interesting to note that [redacted] though young and inexperienced, has become aware of the nature of Communism in Guatemala. His case may be typical of many who arrive here feeling that the danger has been exaggerated but who stay long enough to learn the truth. B1, EB

I am enclosing two extra copies in the event you feel some other section in the Department might be interested in [redacted] views. B1, EB

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

Bill

William L. Krieg

Enclosures

Edward W. Clark, Esquire,
Acting Officer in Charge,
Central America and Panama Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION 06-1060

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PARTICIPANTS: October 8, 1952

[redacted] BI, EB

Mr. William L. Krieg, First Secretary of Embassy.

SUBJECT:

Postponed ODECA Meeting.

[redacted] called to receive a visa for the United States where he is to represent [redacted] at the forthcoming meeting of the United Nations General Assembly. BI, EB

After a general conversation, he brought up the subject of Communism in Guatemala and expressed pessimism regarding the possibility of eliminating Communist influence from the Government. He said when he first arrived in Guatemala he had thought that the "Communists" in this country were actually no more than extreme nationalists, but that he now realized they were part of the international Communist movement and obeyed instructions from abroad as all true Communists do.

As regards the Salvadoran proposal that the Central American countries join in combatting Communism, he said he expected this subject to be discussed when the Central American Foreign Ministers met under the auspices of ODECA. He thought that the meeting would be held toward the end of December or at the beginning of January, and he said that Foreign Minister Galich had endeavored to explain his action in postponing the meeting which was to have been held in September by saying that the news of the Salvadoran proposal had greatly strengthened anti-Communist elements in Guatemala and that the Government did not wish to have any further discussion of this matter until after the Congressional elections in December.

[redacted] did not expect that the meeting when held would be productive. He anticipated BI, EB

that Guatemala would veto the Salvadoran proposal on Communism and that the remaining countries would promptly vote against all the measures for joint action proposed by Guatemala. He questioned whether ODECA would become an effective international organism in the near future due to the deep differences which have arisen between Guatemala on one side and the remaining Central American countries on the other.

William L. Krieg

WLKrieg:rd

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